

AROUND THE FARM

Edited by ANDREW H. WARD.

MONEY IN FARMING.

HOW TO GROW CROPS PROFITABLY.

CULTIVATION OF CORN.

Corn is the crop best adapted to the climate of the United States. It is cultivated on every variety of soil, and on every extremity of the Union to the north.

It constitutes the main stay of the average farmer, being most depended upon to furnish food and provender for man and beast. In 1870 the production of corn was 750,044,549 bushels; in 1880 the production had increased to 1,772,909,846 bushels on 62,326,952 acres, averaging about twenty-eight bushels per acre.

The varieties are very numerous, depending upon the character of the soil and climate, from the small shrubby corn of northern Canada to the gigantic stalks of the Southern States; and the composition and nutritive qualities of the grain vary in like proportion. The varieties of corn are chiefly distinguished by the number of rows of grain on the cob, the size of the grain, the form and hardness of grain, the chemical composition of the grain, or by the color, as white, yellow, brown, the length of time in maturing, etc., but none of the common varieties are of great value for food.

It is useless to recite the names of the many varieties, as they are constantly changing by hybridizing. Indian corn is usually accounted a certain corn, and in comparison with many others, it undoubtedly is the most valuable. It is the one that attracts attention to the selection of seed, and with tolerable care in the after culture, it has scarcely ever been known to result in failure.

There are, of course, exceptional cases, arising from providential human causes, affording a considerable amount of sterile soil, after neglect of the crop, etc. Apart from such instances as these, there is no seed which the husbandman commits to the earth with more certainty of securing some return for his labor. Yet, as the corn is so generally adapted to it, it is not to be considered a very material point for the farmer to consider, although he too often overlooks it.

Here, in fact, the point where certainty ends and contingency begins. While feeling sure of a moderate yield, he is in danger of neglecting the corn, so that, when the harvest comes, he is almost sure of a much greater one.

A small or moderate crop is nearly always a matter of tolerable certainty, but a large yield is encircled by doubt; it is to some extent a question of sun, soil, rain, and frost. A deep, fertile soil, with a small amount of water, will produce a large crop, but the roots can never extend a great distance in depth and laterally; and where, owing to the fineness of the soil, they will not be injured by drought, nor hidden from the heat of the sun and from atmospheric influences, the corn-grower should provide for this crop.

A compact clay, which excludes alkali, water and rapid growth of roots, forbidding all chemical changes, is not to be considered a good soil. It grows rapidly it requires a constant supply of food, and can only be attained where there is a sufficient amount of ash as a solvent to the solids. The percentage of ash in corn is comparatively small, organic matter and water forming the great mass of tissue. The average composition of 1000 parts of corn, 1000 parts of corn stover, and 1000 parts of corn cobs, as given by Professor Woll, is as follows:

Water..... 12.3 Stover. Cobs. 14.4 15.0
Ash..... 4.2 4.2 4.2
Potash..... 3.3 3.6 3.6
Sulphuric acid..... 1.3 1.6 1.6
Magnesia..... 1.3 1.6 1.6
Lime..... 0.3 0.5 0.5
Phosphoric acid..... 0.1 0.2 0.2
Sulphuric acid..... 0.1 0.2 0.2
Silica..... 0.3 0.5 0.5
Sulphur..... 1.2 3.9 3.9

Accordingly land that produces 100 bushels of corn with the stover would abstract from the soil about 154 pounds potash and fifty-four pounds sulphuric acid. If these are not added, that quantity is removed, and the land is so much poorer for it, to say nothing of the other constituents removed. Phosphoric acid and potash are the substances usually most necessary to apply to the soil for corn.

Seed.
That the quality of the seed planted has a material influence on the quality and amount of the resulting crop is a matter that every practical man will understand. The importance, therefore, of giving the most careful attention to the selection of the seed is perfectly obvious.

No man who neglects this essential point can place any reliance on the crop. If his seed-corn is not properly selected, it cannot be certain of its kind, its value, or its results.

Preparation of the Seed for Planting.
It is a very general practice with the best farmers to steep the seed of this grain before planting. This practice seems to be justified by reason and experience. It is attended with a two-fold advantage, in quickening and promoting germination, and in offering a means of protection against the earliest and most dangerous enemies of the plant.

Time to Plant.
This differs according to the variety of the corn planted, the character of the soil, the climate and the season. Vegetation will start sooner in sandy loams, and all such soils as contain much sand or humus, than in those in which clay predominates.

When there is good reason to think that the ground is warm enough to cause a speedy germination and growth, then is the time to plant, and generally this is when the apple is bursting its blossoms buds.

Preparation of Soil.
To impart to the soil before planting a suitable tilth and mellowness by mechanical processes, is an indispensable part of the preparation of the soil, and the methods practiced are various, but the amount of disintegration they are capable of producing is the great and leading consideration.

In every branch of husbandry, yet in none, perhaps, so much as in corn culture, the thoroughness of the tillage by mechanical division and subdivision, is a matter of primary and fundamental importance.

All the large crops there is any account of have been produced, to a great extent, by thorough manures.

Manures are highly useful, and have their share in producing results. But it is tillage, beyond any doubt, that gives to fertilizers their greatest value and effect.

Of all the fertilizing elements contained in the earth or added to it, there is not one that can produce its proper and legitimate result in supplying food to the growing plants without the presence and influence of either air or water, or both combined.

Manure.
The standard manure for Indian corn, as well as for other crops, is undoubtedly that of the farmyard. When that is exhausted, a substitute equally as good can be made from peat. The supply of this falling, chemical fertilizers are resorted to with beneficial results. A composition of 300 pounds Charleston phosphate, 27 per cent; 200 pounds muriate potash, 80 per cent; 500 pounds lime, coralline, at present market prices, worth 87, is sufficient for an acre, and adds to the soil more phosphoric acid than 100 bushels of corn will withdraw. This composition also aids to prevent the ravages of insects existing in the soil.

If the cob is covered to the end with grain, it is a matter of indifference whether it is covered with a supply of phosphoric acid, and potash can be applied to advantage. If the cob is not covered to the end, it indicates phosphoric acid is lacking in the soil.

Planting.
There are two modes of distributing the grain in planting: one prior to hills, others in drills. Whichever way is adopted the same question of

space is to be solved—what is the area of soil to each grain that will give the largest yield per acre? This will depend on a great measure upon the fertility of the soil and the character of the seed planted.

As a guide, the following table shows twenty-one different arrangements for planting, with three several results for each acre.

Table of Results for Different Distances in Planting Corn				
Distance between hills.	Stalks per hill.	Sq. inches to each stalk.	Stalks per acre.	Acres.
24 in.	3	192	32,670	34.48
24 in.	4	144	43,560	30.00
30 in.	3	144	43,560	30.00
30 in.	4	108	58,080	25.83
36 in.	3	108	58,080	25.83
36 in.	4	81	77,424	22.11
42 in.	3	81	77,424	22.11
42 in.	4	63	100,800	19.05
48 in.	3	63	100,800	19.05
48 in.	4	49	131,232	15.27

BUSHELS PER ACRE, ONE EAR TO A STALK.				
One small.	One medium.	One large.	One small.	One medium.
109	182	255	109	182
145	243	341	145	243
70	116	162	70	116
93	158	223	93	158
64	108	151	64	108
47	79	111	47	79
145	243	341	145	243
112	191	270	112	191
77	129	181	77	129
53	97	136	53	97
68	116	162	68	116
72	121	170	72	121
64	108	151	64	108
131	219	305	131	219
87	145	204	87	145
93	158	223	93	158
36	60	85	36	60

Great precision is necessary in making the rows have them as regular and straight as possible in order to facilitate the after-culture. There should be a uniform covering of the seed. If this is not properly attended to there can be no uniformity of depth nor equality of growth.

After-Culture.
It is quite necessary that weeds should not be allowed to grow, and the earth that surrounds and covers the roots should be kept open, loose and as porous as possible, without at the same time doing violence to the roots. If the soil was brought into this condition before planting, it will not be the same amount of disturbance with the hoe, and the same amount of other implements that would be needed in those cases, where the roots, stems and minute fibres are compelled from the start to struggle through a hard, compact and neglected soil. Level culture is the best, for it is the most uniform, and the most economical.

The best time for harvesting or cutting the corn is when the grain is glazed, but not yet perfectly hard and the stalks still partially green. Previous to this process, and at the time when the ear but not the grains were fully formed, it was formerly customary to top the corn, cutting off the stalks and leaving the ears to mature. This is now generally abandoned.

The leaves are necessary for the elaboration of the sap, which forms the grain, and carefulness of the ear, when the plant was thus cut, is not to be neglected. The leaves, when the plant was thus cut, is not to be neglected. The leaves, when the plant was thus cut, is not to be neglected.

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There are always reasons for it. The milk in summer may be out of condition on account of unsuitable food or impurities in the pasture, or lack of sufficient water, or from dogging and racing the cows, or any other causes interfering with the regular secretion of the milk. It is not, however, the milk at milking time have their worst effect in hot weather, and the milk, by reason of its richness, is more liable to be affected by souring, than the cream can resist freely through it.

With manure protected so that it will not suffer loss from drainage or heating, there can be no objection to adding ground plaster; it is beneficial. It is the only one that can be said to be a continuous repository of life. It is the only one that can be said to be a continuous repository of life. It is the only one that can be said to be a continuous repository of life.

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About Fertilizers.
NORWOOD, Ill., February 22, 1884.
To the Agricultural Editor of The Weekly Globe: Will you inform me what soda-ash is, and where it can be procured? You s. o. k. of it in the last issue, but it is not quite clear to me what it is, and I take the place of muriate potash? I wish you would tell me through the columns of THE GLOBE, what it is, and where it can be procured, and what the effect of ashes, or what it would have the effect of ashes.

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Boston Weekly Globe.

TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 1884.

HOW TO RAISE COTTON.

On the 2d page will be found the third paper on the general subject of "How to Grow Cotton Profitably." It is an exhaustive article on cotton. The subject is intelligently and clearly treated, and its information is of practical value to every farmer. Next week, in a similar exhaustive and practical way, the successful cultivation of cotton will be discussed.

ALL THE POLITICAL NEWS.

This political campaign will be a very exciting one, and every voter must keep posted on whatever of importance is said and done by the parties and their candidates. THE WEEKLY GLOBE will tell you everything you wish to know. It has a large editorial corps, an army of correspondents, a private telegraph line to New York that connects with all parts of the world, and the largest and best Hoe presses. No weekly newspaper has superior facilities for securing and delivering the freshest and most valuable political news. Whether you are a Democrat or a Republican you cannot afford to do without THE GLOBE this presidential campaign.

DURING MARCH AND APRIL, 14 MONTHS.

In order to encourage the formation of clubs, during the next two months, 14 Months will be given to Each Subscriber. Every person who sends a Club of FIVE and \$5 will receive a Sixth Copy Free. SIX Copies for \$5. Address The Weekly Globe, Boston.

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The Weekly Globe Wishes to secure a good, reliable agent in every town in the United States, to whom it will pay a liberal cash commission on each and every subscriber. Send for agents' private circular. Agents wanted. Every subscriber may become an agent, and he is urged to act as one. Show a sample copy to your friends and neighbors and form a club. Send for agents' private circular.

ANOTHER DETECTIVE STORY.

THE RED BAND; OR, THE MYSTERY OF PARIS.

A True Story of Detective Life in Paris in the Seventeenth Century.

BY GEORGE REYNOLDS.

A story, with the above title, will begin next week. It is founded on facts recorded by the French police, and is of thrilling interest. Several detective stories are in preparation by the same author.

HOW TO REMIT, ETC.

THE WEEKLY GLOBE is sent everywhere in the United States and Canada, one year, free of postage, for only \$1.00; six copies for only \$5.00. All subscriptions should be sent by postal order registered letter, or draft on New York or Boston, though, if more convenient for the sender, postage stamps will be accepted. When stamps are sent they should be of the denomination of one, two or three cents.

To ensure immediate attention and prompt answers, all letters should be addressed to "THE WEEKLY GLOBE, Boston, Mass."

Every letter and postal card should bear the full name of the writer, his post office, county and State. Every notice of change of residence should give former as well as present address, and both in full. Every notice to discontinue should give the town county and State to which the paper is being sent. All copies lost in the mails will be duplicated free of expense.

When postage stamps are sent they should not be registered. All exchange newspapers and magazines should be addressed simply, "Lock Drawer 9220, Boston, Mass." Sample copies are free.

Senator HILL seems to have an idea that Congress ought to "regulate" the press. Congress had better not try it.

BISMARCK is about to have trouble enough at home over the Lasker resolution, without paying any more attention to what the United States may say or do.

The amount of president-making that is going on in the newspapers is something fearful to contemplate. And the saddest of it is that it is all wasted labor.

The non-Episcopal churches of Brooklyn are about to decide to keep a part of Lent. Another indication of the tendency to gravitate toward a common ground.

HENRY LABOUCHERE, with an incarnate John Bullism that could not be surpassed, says that "the modern nuisance is not the smoker, but the lady who objects to him."

The New York Times has found a man who wants TILDEN to be nominated simply to see what "new titles or epithets his enemies can invent to apply to the old man."

Congressman WHITE of Kentucky is the only man in the House who estimates the reliability of the Navy Department with anything like accuracy. He refuses to vote a cent on the recommendations of the secretary.

The President has again demonstrated his ability to give "a safe, conservative administration." The Pennsylvania Republicans are delighted over the appointments he has just made. He succeeded in so distributing four offices as to please the State bosses, the city bosses of Philadelphia, the

Independents and the Camerontes. President Arthur means to keep his own interests "safe," and to be very "conservative" about injuring his own prospects.

It is said that the GARELY relief expedition is overburdened with applications from civilians who want to go along. If those frozen Northern seas were so much solid gold they could hardly exercise a stronger fascination than they do.

The Governor of California, after much delay, has responded to the public demand, and called an extra session of the Legislature to deal with the railroad question. By doing this he has perhaps saved two of the railroad commission from lynching.

Even the devoted heads of the Supreme Court are not exempt. Mrs. LUCIA DE FORCE GORDON, one of San Francisco's woman lawyers, will apply for permission to practice before that tribunal. The Supreme Court may as well give up first at last.

If half the dynamite and dynamite plots alleged to have been discovered during the past week are the genuine article, this world may expect to wake up to the music of a great big "boom" most any morning, and find itself sailing off in outer air in an infinite number of small pieces.

One of JOHN SHEPHERD'S witnesses, the Mayor of Danville, testifies that he got the drop on a magistrate and shot him dead. Of course the killing of a Democrat by a Readjuster has no political significance. But suppose the magistrate had got the drop on the Mayor, wouldn't the bloody shirt have been waved by Honest JOHN?

The people of Cincinnati must have some excitement. No sooner has the flood gone down than they begin to talk about building two new theatres, which of course they call "immense dramatic temples," which shall surpass anything in this country. Cincinnati could not exist without something to make her an object of interest.

The theorists have come to the conclusion that it is not over-production that has depressed the prints market as much as pride on the part of the feminine half of the country. If so, it is not the first time that fashion has interfered with the plans of the manufacturers. Their best plan is not to continue to make calico, but to make something else that women will decide to be "too lovely for anything."

Dr. WILLIAM A. HAMMOND, in an address on the brain before the Nineteenth Century Club, said that "the emotions should be carefully nurtured, especially in women, as they form one of her chief charms." Not long ago Dr. HAMMOND said in the North American Review that the great emotional development of women is the principal factor in their intellectual inferiority. Is the worthy doctor aware that two and two make four?

Senator SHEPHERD has fathered the newspaper copyright bill and introduced it in the Senate. It is designed to protect published news matter for eight hours. It is not likely to pass, but THE GLOBE does not care whether it passes or not. THE GLOBE'S facilities for collecting news from all parts of the world are so extensive that it has no reason nor interest to oppose the bill, and believing that the bill will not prove effective in operation THE GLOBE considers it waste of time to advocate such legislation.

Femininity appears to have taken leap-year privileges with an addition this year. Jennie Almy in New York shot the man who did not want to marry her. A girl in Pennsylvania announced to a man that he must become her partner for life, and when he respectfully declined attempted to kill him, and there have been several other such cases since leap year began. If the ladies propose to make this kind of wooing a regular thing Congress ought to be petitioned to forbid leap year observances often than once in twenty years.

Mr. ANTHONY COMSTOCK has again distinguished himself by maliciously exercising the authority indiscreetly conferred upon him. It pleased the narrow-gauge mind of him to harbor the great moral idea that a book, which has been publicly sold by reputable dealers for twenty years, had become indecent in the form of a cheap reprint, and it gratified the malicious nature of him to cause the publisher great annoyance by arresting him after court hours. It is the deliberate opinion of sensible men that Mr. COMSTOCK is a greater nuisance than the literature he is trying to suppress.

In the attempt to sustain his charges against BOYNTON, Mr. KEIFER has proved himself to be a man of defective principle and not addicted to excessive veracity. Mr. KEIFER'S witnesses are not persons of unblemished reputation. EIDER has been in the Toms for swindling, and GARFIELD, who is said to be a cousin of the late president, has been indicted for burglary. KEIFER swore that he did not know EIDER, but certain letters in KEIFER'S own hand and the evidence of BREWSTER CAMERON proved that KEIFER KNEW the man intimately. It is possible that a motion may be made to expel the man whom the Republicans have declared by vote to be their leader. It will be interesting to note how the Republicans vote on such a motion.

Where is HOWGATE? In making a transfer of real estate in Washington the other day it was found necessary to have the signature of HOWGATE to one of the papers. It was taken in hand by one of HOWGATE'S friends, and within twenty-four hours it was returned bearing the captain's signature. While Mr. SPRINGER has his hand in, he may as well inquire why the Department of Justice permitted HOWGATE to escape, and why his recapture is so carefully guarded against by the government. Some bigger thief than HOWGATE was mixed up with the signal office corruption. It would pay to guarantee HOWGATE immunity from punishment on condition that he should tell the truth.

The New York Legislature, in response to the demand of the citizens of New York City, who have grown weary of the corruption in their municipal affairs, has passed a bill abolishing the confirming power of the aldermen and giving the appointment of all heads of departments solely to the mayor. The bill is an experiment in municipal reform, and its results will be watched with deep interest not only by New Yorkers, but by the taxpayers of other large cities. Probably some of the most important offices will be made elective, thus curtailing the autocratic power of the mayor, but the main purpose of the measure, viz., to get the offices out of the hands of the aldermen, will not be affected by such legislation. The experiment may be dangerous, inasmuch as it puts

autocratic power in the hands of one man, but it may be urged that it is less difficult to elect an honest mayor than to keep spoilsmen out of the Board of Aldermen. With the right man in the mayor's chair, no doubt the change will be beneficial.

A STAB AT THE CONSTITUTION.

The Supreme Court of the United States seems to be industriously encouraging the growth of a popular suspicion that it is a conspiracy against the Constitution. The decision in the legal tender case coolly sets the language of the Constitution aside, and puts the desires of Congress above the fundamental law of the land. The decision is but an ingenious attorneyism. It is plain that the conclusion of the court was not reached through the arguments presented and that the interpretation of the law did not precede the decision. The court was determined to sustain the legal tender act, and fitted all its arguments and interpretations to that end. Finding that the plain language of the Constitution does not confer the authority upon Congress to make treasury notes a legal tender in payment of private debts, the court says the Constitution is "not to be strictly interpreted," and that the words "necessary and proper" do not mean "necessary and proper," but anything Congress pleases.

It has always been Republican doctrine that the Constitution is binding only when it does not interfere with Republican schemes. All the constitutional acts of the government since the war have been defended on exactly the same ground as that taken by the Supreme Court in the legal tender case. A Constitution which may be twisted, distorted, misinterpreted and set aside at the pleasure of Congress and the Supreme Court is a delusion. If, as Justice GRAY says, the Constitution is not to be interpreted strictly, what limit is there to the power of Congress to act contrary to its express terms?

The legal tender decision is mischievous in design and effect. It is neither good law nor wise policy. The only good law in the matter is contained in the dissenting opinion of Justice FIELD, which exposes the shallowness of the arguments invented by the court to excuse its action. In one of Justice FIELD'S sentences, the fallacy of the decision is laid bare. He says: "If Congress has the power to make the notes of the United States a legal tender, and to make them pass as money, it may be asked what necessity was there to invest it by the Constitution with the power to borrow money." If Congress can make money a printing press is all that is required to wipe out the public debt at once. Talk about the "Greenback craze!" The Supreme Court is on record as the champion of flat money.

LABOR STATISTICS.

In the course of his inquiries into the labor question last summer, Senator BLAIR managed to learn one very important fact at least. He discovered that the labor question does actually exist, and that it is bound to get itself solved in some fashion in this country. It naturally occurred to Senator BLAIR that the solution could be reached in a properly decorous manner only through governmental investigation. To this somewhat foggy mental surmise of Senator BLAIR is to be attributed the increase of interest in labor manifested by the politicians in Congress.

The committee on labor has suddenly discovered the existence of a "great economic problem," and the lack of reliable data upon which to base discussion, and therefore it proposes the establishment of a Department of Labor Statistics, with a commissioner, clerks, salaries and all the modern appliances for doing nothing. At first sight it does seem absurd to set so much machinery in motion to discover that poor people are in this world, but, after all, something may be accomplished, even by a Department of Labor Statistics run by politicians. It would be an evidence of extreme unwisdom to expect that the department shall ever find or suggest any solution of the problem, but it it still perform its work with even a census-taker's intelligence it may collect, in convenient form, figures sustaining the assertions of labor reformers, and thus furnish data upon which to base arguments for true reform.

On the whole, the outcome of Senator BLAIR'S inquiry is not without value. It has even moved Senator HOAR to express a desire to see wages increased.

A NEW CURE FOR INTemperance.

And now they say that alcoholism can be cured by a proper diet. It was LEBIG who first advanced the theory that if a man were to live mainly on farinaceous food the craving for alcoholic liquors can be overcome. Sir CHARLES NAPIER has been conducting some experiments to test the truth of the theory, the results of which are given in a recent number of the Scientific American. The experiment was tried on twenty-seven drunks with the result of confirming the theory in every case. One instance was that of a gentleman of 60 years, during more than half of which he had been so intemperate that his health was shattered. He tried a farinaceous diet, and in seven months, so we are told by Sir CHARLES, he was completely cured. As the result of his experiments, NAPIER recommends macaroni, beans, peas, and almost all garden vegetables, bread of a highly glutinous character, with a plentiful use of butter or olive oil, as the best diet with which to cure intemperance. The explanation given by LEBIG is that this food contains a large amount of carbonaceous starch, which renders unnecessary, and therefore repulsive, the carbon contained in alcohol.

WALL STREET VICISSITUDES.

The experiences of Mr. A. B. STOCKWELL in Wall street present some instructive features which other operators might study with some interest, if not with profit. Mr. STOCKWELL'S operations were at one time enormous, and he was a power on the street. He controlled the Pacific mail and the Panama Canal, and reckoned his fortune in the millions. He got into Atlantic & Pacific and was carried down the bank by JAY GOULD, and at last was compelled to give up his interest in the Howe Sewing Machine Company, which he had acquired by marrying the daughter of ELIAS HOWE. In his prosperity he thought himself financially invincible, and took chances which went against him. Like many another man, he did not know when he had enough. He wanted the earth, and fought for it in Wall street with other men as insatiable as himself, and a little shrewder. He failed the other day for less than \$500. When he came from Cleveland with money he was called "Mr. STOCKWELL"; when he began to operate largely he was called "Captain"; when he became a big man in the market he was spoken of as "Commodore"; when he had lost his fortune

he was referred to as "that red-headed chap from Cleveland." Even Vanderbilt, Gould or Russell Sage may some day be in a position to sympathize with "that red-headed chap from Cleveland." A break in the market might fix them.

THE CIVIL SERVICE BILL.

The majority of the public service committee of the Legislature has at length prepared a civil service bill for presentation to the Great and General Court, and a surprising document it is.

To all intents and purposes it provides that ninety-nine one-hundredths of all the patronage in the State shall be placed within the gift of three men, and that every applicant for office shall by hook or by crook make his peace with them before he can be appointed to a place in the public service. Where can we find three men for commissioners who are free from human failings, human sympathies and human desires? We grant that while THEODORE LYMAN, LEVERETT SALTONSTALL and MOOREFIELD STORY condescend to remain among mortals and consent to act upon the commission, no appointment to office would be influenced by the weakness called sympathy, the vice known as friendship, or the heresy denominated "helping one's friends." But after these models of what mortals should be have, with their few compeers, been removed from our wondering gaze, what then shall we do for commissioners?

Even if the principle of the plan were good, it falls lamentably in important details. If ideal civil service were to be applied at all, it should certainly begin with the chief officials. But all these are exempted. The treasurer, the secretary, the auditor, the attorney-general, and in fact none of the heads of departments need be examined to find whether or not they have any qualifications for the positions. But the messengers and sweeps must submit to a test and receive a certificate from the Board of Commissioners before becoming eligible to appointment.

And therein the idealists surrender their case. Oftentimes the men most capable of filling high positions could not to save their lives pass a civil service examination.

The bill, if passed, will be of no benefit, but will rather be an injury. It will transfer the power of appointment from the heads of departments and authorities of cities and towns, where it belongs, to a triumvirate of vast and almost arbitrary power.

AN OBSTREPEROUS PEOPLE.

In railroadings as in most everything else, Canada comes tagging along a decade or two behind this great and glorious Union. Our statesmen stole the country poor long ago, and divided the loot with the railroads, and we got through giving subsidies after we found out how the game was played. But Canada has just discovered the beauties of the subsidy scheme, and is working it with more enthusiasm than sense. The Canadian Pacific railroad, not content with exclusive right of way, asks for \$30,000,000 of the people's money, and Sir JOHN MACDONALD is determined that the money shall be granted. Lord LANS- DOWNE is said to disapprove of the robbery, but he has not the courage to oppose it. On the contrary, he has appointed a deputy governor-general for the purpose of approving the subsidy bill and robbing the people of Canada at the rate of \$16 per head to enrich a corporation which has already aroused the hostility of the farmers by its extortions. There is so little excuse for permitting the government to swindle them, the Canadians are worthy of but little sympathy. The United States have been before their eyes as a frightful example for some years, and if they are too obtuse to see the consequences of letting the railroads get a chattel mortgage on the earth they must learn by bitter experience. About ten years hence the Canadian Parliament will have some credit mobiler investigations to struggle with.

THE LOWELL BILL.

The bankruptcy bill was reported in the House last Thursday morning by Mr. COLLINS, as chairman of the sub-committee of the judiciary, having the matter in charge. Several bills were referred to the sub-committee early in December, and since that time Mr. COLLINS has been hard at work comparing the various measures proposed. To him is due the credit for having the Lowell bill substituted in committee for all the other bills presented.

Although a new member, his earnestness and ability have won prompt recognition in the House, and the manner in which he has performed his duties on the judiciary committee fully justifies the high compliment paid to him by the speaker in selecting him as a member of that important committee. The commercial interests of Boston are fortunate in having such a champion in the House, and no doubt the business community will recognize and appreciate the services of Congressman COLLINS in this important matter of a bankruptcy law.

"CHROMO CHRISTIANITY."

The religious papers are waging a little war against what they call "Chromo Christianity." They compare all such outdoor considerations as entertainments, oyster suppers, fairs, shooting galleries, etc., with which the modern church tries to keep up its social life and retain the interest of the young people with the chromes which have been adopted as means of advertising. They say that these attractions are foreign to the spirit and the intention of church work, and one of them declares that they "are no more signs of real life in a society than are the ghastly contortions of a corpse when galvanised into motion." It is all only the expression of some of the dissatisfaction which the older people in the churches have been feeling and expressing in private for some time over the direction which church work has been taking in later years. They may not object to the chromes in themselves, but they think that the chromo part is absorbing too much attention.

The cost of living at a new mine in the West is thus itemized: Board is \$4 per day; whiskey and all kinds of drinks, \$5 cents; meals, \$1 each; flour, \$60 per barrel; bacon, 65 cents; beef, 50 cents; venison, 25 cents; coffee, 61 cents per pound; horsehoeing, \$8 a span; lumber, \$150 per thousand; beans, 20 cents; onions, 10 cents; axe and handle, \$6; pick and handle, \$10; pick handle pluck, bottom, game, tooth and nail, thick and thin, fire and water, fortiter in re, etc. Some of our Texas Senators should have at least two such clerks.

The Cincinnati Commercial-Gazette tells that the nail on the head when it declares that too many young men want to begin where their fathers left off, and that they would leave off where their fathers have begun.

It cast a glow over an entire Texas community, observes Sittings, when the son of a Texas legislator, who had just returned with his father from the State capital, walked up to the grab-bag and prize-cake table and asked that the game be explained to him. While the son was thus occupied, the father was busy with the crowd.

Of the seeds sent out by the department of agriculture 1,884,514 packages are vegetable seed, 233,440 packages are flower seed, and there are large quantities of wheat, oats, corn, barley, potatoes, turnips, sugar beet, cotton, flax, etc.

The Cincinnati Commercial-Gazette: Gust, Gust, mad old March is a democratic fellow. During his reign the ragged cap of the beggar and the shining beaver of the millionaire skip and frolic down the street together, while the chimney pots on the parlor floors strike up a nodding acquaintance with the rusty piece of stove pipe that smokes kitchen coal.

The annual rainfall in this country, according to the Weather Signal, is lowest in New Mexico (13 inches) and California (18 inches), and highest

in Oregon (48) and Alabama (56). The annual rainfall in the British Islands among the mountains is 41 inches; on the plains 25 inches; 45 inches of rain falls on the west side of England; 27 on the east side.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

"I would like to be in that 'whiskey pool,'" sighed the tramp, as he laid down a paper. The night editors quickly "pooled their issues," and the tramp went out and got outside of quite a respectable whiskey pool.

"We have ordered some ships-of-war," and we shall not go to war within a year," says a Republican exchange. How knowing! A man often goes home with a black eye at night which he did not expect to get in the morning.

Sioux Valley News: When a Marcus girl wants her fellow to go home she takes down her back hair. The Mars girls take off their shoes. Sanborn girls say: "It's time for my dearest Charles to unclasp his circulating arms and his way to his parlour." Cincinnati girls are more practical and less demonstrative. They simply say: "Sonny, mine's up; git."

In Germany several cures of the gout by being stung by a bee are reported. Sioux Valley News: When a Marcus girl wants her fellow to go home she takes down her back hair. The Mars girls take off their shoes. Sanborn girls say: "It's time for my dearest Charles to unclasp his circulating arms and his way to his parlour." Cincinnati girls are more practical and less demonstrative. They simply say: "Sonny, mine's up; git."

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TOWNSEND'S LETTER.

Stockwell's Attempt Through the Eye of a Needle.

The Interest in Politics—Democratic Prospects and Republican Plans.

O'Brien and Arthur—Railroad Points—Comstock's Methods.

New York, March 8.—A. B. Stockwell's failure and poverty is the Nemesis of Pacific Mail, while the want of any continuous responsible life in the maritime corporation, the retiring of old directors and the rise of unknown rich men like Stockwell, who wanted the gods to lay all the eggs at once; and besides, the war-hauls, which made shipping profits of 3 per cent. contemptible. We did not lose the ocean; we sold it out and abandoned it. Yet we are getting more than 3 per cent. for all that money acquired so hastily? Widows and wars and trusts and savings banks would be glad to have the maritime 3 per cent. now. These laws of moral reprisal and financial ebb and flow teach Darwin and Huxley, and restore the moral teachers of man to their supremacy, as when old Solomon, telling the influence of the "Secret of the Universe" to his son, said: "The

platter. Spread both sides with the molasses mixture and bake on a hot griddle. Serve with molasses labelled maple syrup. This, of course, not the family style. We got our information dissecting a pancake built at an up-town restaurant, and it can be rolled upon.

